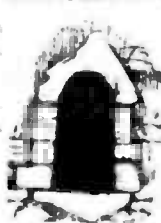


far from the foot of the rock, appears to be in anything but a flourishing condition. The Round Tower on the rock, we should have said, has several triangular-headed openings, and there is an entrance to it from the cathedral.

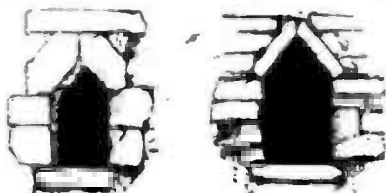


The doorway to the Tower at Glendalough has a round head, but it is cut out of a single stone, and this is the case in many other instances. At Monasterboice the same thing occurs; and there, as will be seen in the accompanying illustration, a slight ornamentation has been attempted, in the shape of a sunk face on a raised band.



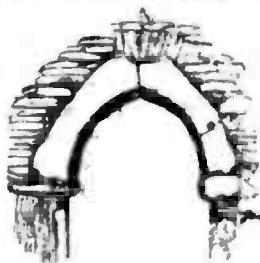
Doorway, Round Tower, Monasterboice.

Of the triangular-headed openings to which we have referred, we give two sketches from Round Towers.



Triangular-headed Openings.

There are instances where the under side of the two stones, placed triangularly to form the head of a doorway, is cut into the shape of a pointed arch; we annex an example:—



but we do not find this any reason for believing, as an intelligent modern writer does, that the Irish worked out for themselves a pointed style of architecture. It should be mentioned, however, that this same form is found in the outline of some of the most ancient stone houses, constructed by the gradual approximation of stones laid horizontally one over the other till closed at the top by a single stone. The Oratory at Gallarus, which we did not see, is a beautifully constructed example of this sort, taking on the outside the appearance of a well-wrought pointed vault. A view of it is given in Dr. Petrie's admirable work on "the Ecclesiastical Architecture of Ireland anterior to the Anglo-Norman Invasion." Of the author of this book, his fellow-citizens may reasonably be proud: it is full of learn-

ing and acute observations: time will but increase its value.

Dr. Petrie's conclusions as to the Round Towers, and which seem founded on sound reason, are,—

I. That the Towers are of Christian and ecclesiastical origin, and were erected at various periods between the fifth and thirteenth centuries.

II. That they were designed to answer, at least, a twofold use, namely, to serve as belfries, and as keeps, or places of strength, in which the sacred utensils, books, relics, and other valuables were deposited, and into which the ecclesiastics, to whom they belonged, could retire for security in cases of sudden predatory attack.

III. That they were probably also used, when occasion required, as beacons and watch-towers.

His evidence for the first conclusion, namely, that the towers are of Christian origin, are,—

1. The towers are never found unconnected with ancient ecclesiastical foundations.

2. Their architectural styles exhibit no features or peculiarities not equally found in the original churches with which they are locally connected, when such remain.

3. On several of them, Christian emblems are observable, and others display in the de-

tails a style of architecture universally acknowledged to be of Christian origin.

4. They possess, invariably, architectural features not found in any buildings in Ireland ascertained to be of Pagan times.

After visiting Cork, to which we have already referred, we went on to Killarney, of which collection of beauties we would gladly say much, but that we fear exhausting the patience of our readers. Those who would enjoy some most delicious scenery, and have not visited Killarney, should note it for an early visit; and if they go to the Lake Hotel (the others may be as good, for anything we know to the contrary) they will find a *solitude* about their comfort which is quite soothing in these days of rapid travelling, when hotel-keepers for the most part regard their customers simply as goods.

At *Monasterboice Abbey*, near the hotel, the cloisters, although not ancient, have round arches, and are very picturesque in appearance. There are few examples of perfect cloisters remaining in Ireland. We give a view of those at Moyne Abbey, from Mr. Wilkinson's "Ancient Architecture of Ireland," mentioned in our last, as they are understood to be a fair representation of the general design of the cloisters of the ancient Irish Abbeys.*



Cloisters, Moyne Abbey.

In this part of the country, Killarney, there is much mineral wealth to repay the employment of capital. In a recent number of the *Art Journal* reference is properly made to the efforts of Colonel Hall, the father of Mr. S. C. Hall, in this respect, and it is stated that by his mining operations Colonel Hall caused to be expended not less than 400,000*l.* in Ireland. He opened and worked no fewer than thirteen mines, and encouraged men of larger means to follow in the same course. We need scarcely say that in the course of our trip we often heard Mr. and Mrs. Hall's names pronounced with thankfulness and respect. They have done much for Ireland, and we hope Irishmen will never fail to acknowledge it.

Their elaborate work, "Ireland, its Scenery Character, &c."* and the beautifully illustrated and charmingly written, "Week at Killarney,"† have sent to that country hundreds of sympathising visitors, and will send hundreds more: their anxiety has been "to make Ireland advan-

teously known to England—that the *id* which unites them may be more closely knit, and that the people of both countries may think, feel, and act as one people."

We endorse the sentence, and cannot end with a better.††

RIGHT OF CHURCHWARDENS OVER GRAVE-STONES.—In a trial at the Uttoxeter County Court, a churchwarden has been found liable to pay the value of a stone removed from a churchyard without legal process, although set up without special authority. The inscription had been submitted to the warden (the defendant), who requested the plaintiff to wait till Easter for authority to place the stone. "Long after that" the sexton allowed the engraver to set up the stone, and the magistrate held that the sexton was the warden's agent, that the inscription was not objectionable, and that the warden, if he wished to remove the stone, ought not to have taken the law into his own hands, but should have applied to the ordinary, and proceeded in a legal manner for the removal of anything objectionable. Verdict as claimed, with costs.

* Ireland, its Scenery, Character, &c. By Mr. and Mrs. S. C. Hall. In three vols. A new edition. London: Hall, Virtue, and Co. In these three interesting volumes each county is described separately, and fully illustrated; and the authors have sought to give, beyond topographical and statistical information, such legends, traditions, and stories as serve to throw light on the state of the country and the character of the people.

† Also published by Virtue and Co. London. This should be in the bag of every visitor to the lakes.

* Mr. Wilkinson's book contains a large amount of valuable information on the various building stones of Ireland, and, according to the evidence of practical local architects, may be safely referred to.

† With reference to the increased facilities of communication between the countries, we hear with regret that the services of Mr. Honey, by whom so much has already been done in this respect, have been transferred to another field. It is to be hoped, however, that the course he has pointed out will be persevered in.